

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 06178 172131Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 HA-05 SS-15 NSC-05 /066 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 207

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 6178

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, CI
SUBJ: TRADE UNION RIGHTS: COMMENTS ON MEANY LETTER TO PRESIDENT
CARTER

REF: STATE 207700

1. MR. MEANY'S LETTER (REFTEL) SEEMS TO CONVEY ESSENTIALLY THE SAME MESSAGE THAT AFL-CIO VICE-PRESIDENTS SOL CHAIKIN AND TEDDY GLEASON COMMUNICATED TO PRESIDENT PINOCHET DURING A MEETING WITH HIM ON MAY 22. THEY PUBLICLY COVERED THE SAME GROUND ON MAY 23 IN A PRESS CONFERENCE. CHAIKIN ALSO GAVE THE CHILEAN PRESIDENT A WRITTEN MEMORANDUM MAKING SOME OF THE SAME POINTS NOW MADE BY MEANY.

2. ALTHOUGH MEANY STATES THAT THE TEXT OF HIS LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GOC OFFICIALS AND CHILEAN LABOR LEADERS, WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REACTION FROM THE FORMER SO FAR. "GROUP OF TEN" LEADER EDUARDO RIOS KNOWS THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE LETTER AND TOLD US AUGUST 16 THAT HE WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTS IT -- EVEN AT THE POSSIBLE COST OF DILUTING THE AFL-CIO'S UMBRELLA OVER THE "GROUP OF TEN". (DURING THE MAY SOLIDARITY VISIT, AND IN THE MEMORANDUM LEFT WITH PINOCHET AFL-CIO LEADERS REFERRED TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF INDIVIDUAL "GROUP OF TEN" MEMBERS. THAT KIND OF
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 06178 172131Z

DETAIL IS ABSENT FROM THE MEANY LETTER AND IF THE U.S. LABOR MOVEMENT IN FACT TAKES ACTION AGAINST CHILE ON THE BROADER ISSUES, THERE WILL BE LESS CONSTRAINT ON THE GOC TO LEAVE RIOS AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC LABOR LEADERS ALONE.)

3. AS WITH THE HANDLING OF THE GLEASON/CHAIKIN

SOLIDARITY VISIT, WE BELIEVE USG INTERESTS ARE BEST
SERVED BY ENSURING THAT THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN OUR
GENERAL SUPPORT OF TRADE UNION FREEDOMS WORLDWIDE AND
THE AFL-CIO'S POSSIBLE ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SUCH FREEDOMS
IN PARTICULAR INSTANCES REMAINS CLEAR. IF BEARDED BY
GOC OFFICIALS WE PLAN TO STRESS THIS DISTINCTION.
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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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